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SENATE

{ REPORT
No. 91-817

CONFERRING U.S. CITIZENSHIP POSTHUMOUSLY UPON Sp4c AARON TAWIL

APRIL 30, 1970.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. EASTLAND, from the Committee on the Judiciary,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 1951]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (H.R. 1951) to confer U.S. citizenship posthumously upon Sp4c. Aaron Tawil, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to confer U.S. citizenship posthumously upon Sp4c. Aaron Tawil.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Sp4c. Aaron Tawil was born in Israel on January 31, 1946, and first entered the United States for permanent residence on September 29, 1955. He returned to Israel and served in the Israeli Army from May 31, 1964, to January 26, 1965. He was last admitted to the United States for permanent residence on November 16, 1965. On April 11, 1967, Aaron Tawil was inducted into the U.S. Army and on November 17, 1968, he died in Vietnam from wounds received during a rocket attack. His widow is a citizen of the United States, and his parents, two sisters and four brothers are lawful permanent residents. One of the brothers is presently serving with the U.S. Army in Germany.

A letter, with attached memorandum, dated November 26, 1969, to the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives from the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization with reference to the case, reads as follows:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE,
Washington, D.C., November 26, 1969.

HON. EMANUEL CELLER,
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: In response to your request for a report relative to the bill (H.R. 1951) for the relief of Sp4c. Aaron Tawil, there is attached a memorandum of information concerning the beneficiary.

The bill would confer U.S. citizenship posthumously upon the beneficiary as of November 17, 1968.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND F. FARRELL,
Commissioner.

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND
NATURALIZATION SERVICE FILES RE H.R. 1951

Information concerning the case was furnished by Alice Rhea Tawil, nee Frankel, the beneficiary's widow.

The beneficiary, Aaron Tawil, formerly known as Aharon Tawil, a native and citizen of Israel, was born on January 31, 1946. He and the interested party were married on February 25, 1968, in New York City. The beneficiary was first admitted to the United States as an immigrant on September 29, 1955. He left this country on February 10, 1964, and returned to Israel. He served in the Israeli Army from May 31, 1964, to January 26, 1965. The beneficiary was last admitted to the United States on November 16, 1965, with a visa for permanent residence issued by virtue of a petition filed in his behalf by his U.S. citizen father. On April 11, 1967, the beneficiary was inducted into the U.S. Army. He was sent to Vietnam on March 27, 1968, and on November 17, 1968, he died from wounds received from a rocket attack while he was on guard duty. The beneficiary was posthumously promoted to the grade of sergeant pursuant to Public Law 680, 77th Congress. The beneficiary's widow received a Certificate of Honorable Service issued by the Armed Forces of the United States in his behalf. Besides his widow, the beneficiary is survived by his parents, two sisters, and four brothers, all permanent residents of the United States. Another brother is serving with the U.S. Army in Germany.

Alice Rhea Tawil, a native and citizen of the United States, was born on September 11, 1949. She is presently attending Community College. She receives a pension of \$146 a month from the U.S. Government, as the widow of a veteran, and also is the beneficiary of a \$5,000 insurance policy taken out by her former husband. Mrs. Tawil stated that it had been

Aaron Tawil's wish to become a U.S. citizen, that he considered the United States of America to be his country, and that he had planned to apply for citizenship when he completed his Army service. The witness stated that making the beneficiary a citizen posthumously would partially fulfill this wish.

Congressman Bertram L. Podell, the author of the bill, appeared before a subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and testified in support of the bill, as follows:

Mr. Chairman, my bill, H.R. 1951, to confer U.S. citizenship posthumously upon Sp4c. Aaron Tawil, is being considered today.

I respectfully submit the following evidence in support of my bill:

Sp4c. Aaron Tawil was born on January 31, 1946, in Israel. He was first admitted to the United States as an immigrant on September 20, 1955. He left this country on February 10, 1964, and returned to Israel. He served in the Israel Army from May 31, 1964, to January 29, 1965. He was last admitted to the United States on November 16, 1965, with a visa for permanent residence. On April 11, 1967, Specialist 4c. Tawil was inducted into the U.S. Army and subsequently sent to Vietnam on March 27, 1968.

On November 17, 1968, Specialist 4c. Tawil died from wounds received from a rocket attack while serving with the 198th Infantry Brigade.

Specialist 4c. Tawil was posthumously promoted to the grade of sergeant pursuant to Public Law 680, 77th Congress. This young man was also recommended by his company commander for the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service, which was approved by the commanding general, American Division. He had been previously awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, National Defense Service Medal, and Vietnam Service Medal by the U.S. Government, and the Vietnamese Campaign Medal by the Government of the Republic of Vietnam.

Specialist fourth class Tawil married Alice, nee Frankel, Tawil, a native and citizen of the United States, in New York City on February 25, 1968. His other survivors include his parents, two sisters, and four brothers, all permanent residents of the United States. Another brother is currently serving with the U.S. Army in Germany.

The beneficiary's widow has stated to me that it had been Aaron Tawil's wish to become a U.S. citizen, that he considered the United States of America to be his country and that he had planned to apply for citizenship upon completion of his Army service.

If the subcommittee members wish, they may refer to the attachments contained herein relative to H.R. 1951.

I am most grateful for your consideration of this bill and hope that the committee will give its approval.

Thank you.

BERTRAM L. PODELL.

S.R. 817

The attachments referred to in the above statement read as follows:

HEADQUARTERS, U.S. MILITARY
ASSISTANCE COMMAND, VIETNAM,
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER,
APO San Francisco, December 24, 1968.

HON. BERTRAM L. PODELL,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. PODELL: This is in reply to your inquiry concerning Sp3c. Aaron Tawil, US52751749.

Specialist Tawil was recommended by his company commander for the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service. This award was recently approved by the commanding general, American Division, and the award will be presented to his family in the near future. In addition, Specialist Tawil was previously awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, National Defense Service Medal, and Vietnam Service Medal by our Government, and the Vietnamese Campaign Medal by the Government of the Republic of Vietnam.

I hope this information will be of assistance to you, and I wish you every success in your very worthy endeavor to recognize the supreme sacrifice of Specialist Tawil.

Sincerely,

CREIGHTON W. ABRAMS,
General, U.S. Army, Commanding.

BROOKLYN, N.Y., *March 11, 1969.*

HON. BERTRAM L. PODELL,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. PODELL: This is in reply to your letter of March 3, 1969, concerning H.R. 1951, the bill to confer U.S. citizenship posthumously upon my husband, Aaron.

Aaron first entered the United States on September 9, 1955. He came here via Air France and arrived at La Guardia Airport. He arrived with his family for the purpose of becoming a permanent resident of the United States. Aaron returned to Israel in 1963 for the purpose of serving in the Israeli Army. Aaron came back to the United States on November 16, 1965. He entered New York at Kennedy Airport. He came back to the United States to live and make his life here.

Aaron was drafted into the Army on April 10, 1967.

Aaron held no jobs, that I know of, in Israel other than being in the Army. Since his return in 1965 the only job, that I know of, he held was with Dumont Handkerchiefs in Manhattan.

I am a citizen of the United States.

Neither I nor Aaron have any children living here or abroad.

Thank you for all your help, and I hope this information is what you wanted.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. ALICE TAWIL.
S.R. 817

JULY 14, 1969.

Re H.R. 1951—To confer U.S. citizenship posthumously upon Sp4c. Aaron Tawil.

HON. EMANUEL CELLER,
Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The above bill, which I introduced on January 3, 1969, would confer U.S. citizenship posthumously on Sp4c. Aaron Tawil. I am advised by Mrs. Alice Tawil, widow of Sp4c. Aaron Tawil, that her husband first entered the United States, arriving from Israel, on September 9, 1955, for the purpose of becoming a permanent resident of the United States. Specialist Fourth Class Tawil returned to Israel in 1963 where he served in the Israeli Army, returning to the United States on November 16, 1965. He was drafted into the Army on April 10, 1967. During the interim between his return from Israel and his entry into the military service of the United States, Private First Class Tawil was employed by the Dumont Handkerchief Co. in New York City, N.Y.

While in service with the 198th Infantry Brigade, U.S. Army, Specialist Fourth Class Tawil was killed in action in Vietnam on November 17, 1968. This young man was recommended by his company commander for the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service. The award was approved by the commanding general, Americal Division. Specialist Fourth Class Tawil had been previously awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, National Defense Service Medal, and Vietnam Service Medal by the U.S. Government, and the Vietnamese Campaign Medal by the Government of the Republic of Vietnam.

Enclosed are communications from the widow of the late Specialist Fourth Class Tawil and Gen. Creighton W. Abrams, U.S. Army, commanding general, U.S. Military Assistance Command in Vietnam, substantiating the information supplied above.

H.R. 1951 is consistent with the precedents established by previous enactments of the Congress conferring posthumous citizenship on Pfc. Alfred Sevenski (Private Law 90-193, Pfc. John P. Collopy (Private Law 90-263), Pfc. John R. Aneli (Private Law 90-299), Pvt. Willie Michalik (Private Law 90-341), and S. Sgt. Ivan C. King (Private Law 90-343).

It would be appreciated if favorable action could be taken on this measure at the earliest opportunity.

With warm regards,
Sincerely,

BERTRAM L. PODELL,
Member of Congress.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (H.R. 1951) should be enacted.

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